

YAQUI DELTA.

Special Correspondence From Es-
peranza Showing Great Results.

Here in the Yaqui valley there is great activity, settlers are bringing their goods in by the car load; the freight warehouse is overburdened with farming implements of all descriptions, huge steam plows are being unloaded from flat cars, furniture and lumber is stacked along the depot platform and the beginning of the rush of settlers to the Yaqui valley has commenced.

This is but the vanguard of the army that is expected in the fall; already inquiry is being made for lands from Northernmost Canada, British Columbia, Manitoba, Alberta, Oregon, Washington, California, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Missouri, Iowa, and Nebraska, with the first few inquiries from England, South Africa, and the Eastern United States.

The settlers that came in when the first block of land was opened for settlement are reaping a wondrous reward, for they are bringing corn, wheat, garbanzo and alfalfa to the depot by the wagon load. It is nothing to pass on the road to Ontagota a dozen teams, whips snapping and wagons creaking with the effort to move these immense loads of staples.

The few who have put in alfalfa are indeed fortunate, one man shipped 100 tons of alfalfa from one cutting, over a little more than sixty acres of land. Alfalfa is worth from \$15 to \$18 gold per ton, and alfalfa is good for seven cuttings a year in the Yaqui valley.

At Ontagota we saw a stack of Bermuda onions piled three feet or more high and covering a hundred square feet of ground, and were told that they were dug from eight short rows.

This is the season for water-melons and cantaloupes, and the few settlers who put their land in this fruit are working by torch light to pack and crate as fast as the demand requires.

At Esperanza, headquarters of the Richardson Construction Company, operators of the immense system of irrigation that is in process of construction, buildings are going up as fast as carpenters can be obtained to do the work.

A warehouse is started to accommodate some of the material that is now of necessity out in the open; a large "general store" is in process of erection, several houses are building in the Esperanza Villa Tract; the ice plant completed recently is running both night and day to supply the demand that comes from as far south as the Grant Construction Co.'s camp that is at the end of the new Southern Pacific extension beyond Mazatlan.

A hospital that will be the finest in a thousand miles of travel is nearly completed, a staff of physicians engaged, with competent nurses, a pharmacy being built in addition to the hospital and all sanitary arrangements installed that will make this a model of convenience and sanitation. Doctor F. J. Hart from Bisbee has arrived

and is in charge.

There is really no need of a hospital in this favored clime but the Richardson Construction Company, are solicitous for the welfare of their thousands of employees and in addition the hospital will be an assurance to the incoming settlers that the best of medical and surgical care is to be had if the occasion ever arises.

Machine shops are building, one is already completed, a garage for the company's automobiles is completed, a brick yard is completed and turning out brick for the settlers. An adobe yard is laid out and an advance supply of 40,000 "dobs" is on hand, this is the material of which all buildings are being constructed. Houses made of this material are delightfully cool in summer and warm in winter. The houses here are an education. Our California friends could learn many useful things from stepping into this "Charles Dana's" bit of old California, and seeing the beautiful old Spanish haciendas. They are all built for this climate, where frosts are unknown, with a corridor running through the entire length of the house, the rooms opening out of this corridor on either side, verandas on all sides, walls two or more feet thick that keep out the heat of the day, great wide windows, screened and barred, so that one may sleep with the windows wide open and feel secure. Many connoisseurs would delight to inspect some of these houses, with their high mahogany wainscoting, and old Spanish cedar furniture. By the way this furniture is obtainable for absurdly low prices, chairs cost as low as \$1.50 each and are a marvel of cabinet work, fastened together with wooden pegs, and covered with natural hide. There are a thousand things around these old houses that are a delight: old *ollas*, shady verandas, and venison for dinner is hard to beat.

The Richardson Construction Company report that they have twenty-five miles of main canal now in operation, together with fifteen miles of lateral.

They have building and to be completed in the near future eleven miles of main canal, forty-nine miles of lateral, 100 miles of secondary laterals and 375 miles of tertiary laterals; this with necessary headgates, tournouts, and other structures will deliver water to another 84,000 acres of land.

Work on the main canal is largely mechanical excavation, elevator graders drawn by traction engines do most of the work. Each of these graders has a capacity of 1,000 cubic yards of dirt per day.

Since March 1st the company have cleared and grubbed in excess of 100 miles of streets and avenues; and have cleared for demonstration purposes and planting over 2000 acres of land. The townsites of Esperanza and Yaqui have been completed and streets cleared.

Contracts for thirty-five wells have been made, fifteen of which have been completed and are producing excellent water at depth from fifty to sixty feet. At Esperanza the company have completed an excellent club house with all modern improvements, and

have laid out and planted around it a demonstration garden in which is found nearly every known variety of ornamental trees and shrubs.

The company have a well equipped boat house with speedy motor boats in commission, a supply of "Morris" canoes and also some fine cedar row boats for use on their main canal.

The Yaqui river is the largest, and has the largest water-shed of any river in Mexico. This great water-shed extends six hundred miles back through the mighty ranges and gorges of the Sierra Madre and continental divide, whose melting snows and rains furnish an inexhaustible supply of water that is carried through the Richardson Construction Company's canals and laterals out over this rich delta of the Yaqui. This delta is like the Nile delta in many ways, and like the Nile delta is coming to its own, for until twelve years ago the Nile delta was farmed and irrigated much as the Yaqui delta has been, in the crudest and most wasteful way; but twelve years ago the reclamation of the Nile lands was undertaken and practically the same system used, that is now being made use of by the Richardson Construction Company in irrigating the Yaqui delta.

Land is now selling in Egypt for \$1500 per acre, and the possibilities are as good in the Yaqui valley.

Quoting from Mr. Iddings report, American consul general to Egypt.

"Egypt produced 634,849,300 pounds of cotton, worth 85,458,060 dollars in 1908 and the United States bought to the amount of \$10,354,385. In 1907 the crop was larger and the United States took \$16,000,000 worth."

The climate, soil, and general conditions are much the same in the Yaqui valley as in the Nile delta, and who can say what the possibilities are for raising cotton?

The cotton that has been raised from inferior seed in the Yaqui valley is good, but until now there has been no area large enough under irrigation to gain any definite data.

The Richardson Construction Company have withdrawn practically their entire holdings, approximately 600,000 acres of land until the second unit of construction work is completed, this will enhance the value of their holdings as water will be on all the land ahead of lands being sold.

Here in the Yaqui valley there is room for a million people; and with a low priced land, abundance of water, rich soil, excellent markets and a delightful climate, where the "trade winds" blow gently every day in the summer, tempering the heat of the day, and where the winters are the most delightful on earth, it is easy to predict that the near future will see this pleasant valley filled with happy and prosperous people.

The policy of the Richardson Construction Company is a broad one and under their able management the Yaqui valley is destined to be one of earth's "paradise spots."

REMSON.

ESPERANZA, July 12, 1909.

Held to the Grand Jury.

At the time of the murder of Edwin Eagan, near Calabasas on the ninth of June, it will be recalled that a man named Casimero Romero was arrested upon suspicion, and has been held in jail since that time, while the officers have been engaged busily in collecting evidence. Considerable success has attended the efforts of Sheriff Saxon and his deputies, so much so in fact that the preliminary examination of the suspected man was held before Justice J. J. Chatham of Nogales precinct on Monday of the present week. But a part of the evidence discovered was submitted, but that which was presented to the Court, while circumstantial was very strong. Two witnesses were examined, and there was introduced certain exhibits that tend strongly to connect the accused with the crime. The result of the examination was that the defendant was held without bonds to appear before the Grand Jury at the October term of the District Court.

Robert S. Brooks Drowned.

A press telegram from El Paso, appearing in the newspapers of Tuesday and Wednesday of the present week conveyed the intelligence that Mr. Robert Stewart Brooks, a well known mining engineer had been drowned on the 6th inst. in the Yaqui River at some point south of Moctezuma. No particulars of the fatal accident were transmitted. Deceased was travelling with a pack train, and at the time of the drowning his body was not recovered.

Mr. Brooks was known well all over the West Coast of Mexico and in Arizona. He was at Mazatlan, Culiacan and other points in Sinaloa during the winter months, and returned thence in the latter part of March, remaining at Nogales several weeks in April. From Nogales he went to El Paso, where he made his headquarters, and thence he returned to Douglas in June and went southward on the trip which was terminated with his life.

Mr. Brooks was a native of Paterson, New Jersey, and a graduate of Princeton University, being a member of the class of 1896 in the engineering department of that great educational institution. He came to the Southwest in 1902, and associated for several years with the Greene interests in Chihuahua. Of late he had been travelling for Doctor Ricketts of the Cananea Company, and was representing that interest in his field work in Arizona, Sonora and Sinaloa.

Last week there was at Nogales a day or two Reverend B. F. Elliott, from La Paz, Lower California, who was returning home after an absence of two months, during which he was in attendance at the annual state camp meeting of the Church of God, at Lodi, California, after adjournment of which meeting the reverend gentleman went East and visited in Anderson, Indiana. Reverend Elliott has been in Lower California seven years, engaged in missionary work and he conducts there a couple of newspapers devoted to the cause.